



G-5's "Eye on AMC" **U.S. Army Materiel Command**

Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War

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DoD looking for civilian volunteers to serve in Iraq and Afghanistan

The Department of Defense has established an Internet site for recruiting temporary contract federal civilian workers to assist in rebuilding the nations of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Supporting Our Friends in Iraq and Afghanistan (SOFIA) is a Department of Defense program that seeks to hire motivated civilian employees to help the Iraqi and Afghani governments in their quest to become full-fledged democracies.

SOFIA's web site is located at: <http://cpolsdev.belvoir.army.mil/sofia>.

Job skills being sought are numerous and across the spectrum, including civil engineering, banking, agriculture, education, communications and security. Interested applicants should search under the 'Available Opportunities' section for current job vacancies in Iraq and Afghanistan. Individuals will be hired by the department through the U.S. Army, which is the executive agent, for a 12-month period with the option to extend. Applicants do not have to be current or past federal employees.

Prospective applicants must be willing to live under field conditions. Foreign language aptitude and prior military experience are helpful but are not required.

Letterkenny serves as "inland node"

Letterkenny Army Depot off-loaded four Paladin Howitzers today, completing the final leg of a nationally-watched demonstration that tests federal military use of the Port of Philadelphia.

The demonstration began last week when the Paladins were loaded on trucks in Anniston, Ala. These units, containing the latest in sophisticated tracking devices, were placed aboard a Landing Craft Utility at the Port of Charleston, S.C. and shipped to the Port of Philadelphia, Pa. Upon arrival at the Philadelphia Port, the Paladins were transferred to rail cars and moved along Norfolk Southern and CSX lines to Letterkenny Army Depot, 150 miles away in Chambersburg, Pa.

"For more than two years, Letterkenny has been an active partner with the Delaware River Maritime Enterprise Council and Letterkenny Industrial Development Authority to provide the 'inland node,'" said Col. William A. Guinn, commander. "As the 'inland node', Letterkenny will serve as the prime, safe and secure storage facility, prepared to transport a variety of military supplies and equipment anywhere in the world by rail to ship at a moment's notice."

APG works with local community to share land

Aberdeen Proving Ground leaders have begun preparation of a memorandum of agreement with the City of Aberdeen to study the joint use of land at APG's Phillips Army Airfield. The memorandum of agreement will be the kick-off document formally allowing APG to interact with the City of Aberdeen on proposed business uses for the site.

According to Col. Mardi U. Mark, deputy installation commander, this is the first step in the study process which is designed to address the safety, environmental, community and operational concerns that a joint use agreement could raise.

"The entire process will be designed to make certain that all stakeholder concerns are addressed," she said. "We are at the very beginning of that process and I know there will be many individuals and groups, on and off post, with important input. There will be a number of opportunities for everyone to contribute after the city makes an actual proposal. Right now, we're just setting into place the intent to study the joint use option."